

ASTORIA GETS LAND GRANT FOR \$9,506.

State Board Unanimously Grants the Grab of 16 31-100 Acres in Berrian's Creek to Be Reclaimed and Improved.

Only Restriction Is That These Improvements Shall Begin Before the Expiration of Five Years.

Platt's Firm Puts It Through, and the Only Hope to Stop It Is Roosevelt, or a Suit to Be Begun by Whalen.

How State Officers Give Away Millions.

Lieutenant-Governor Woodruff, Speaker Nixon, Secretary of State McDonough, Attorney-General Davies, State Treasurer Jaceckel and State Engineer Bond, comprising the State Land Board, yesterday granted in perpetuity to the Astoria Heat, Light and Power Company, Tracy, Boardman & Platt, attorneys, 16 31-100 acres of land under water, opposite Berrian's Island, and adjoining the company's upland possessions at Astoria, L. I. The company pays \$3,500 for the grant. Substantial improvements must be entered upon within five years.

How New York City Protects the People.

For land not more valuable than the Astoria's grant will become the New York City authorities obtain an annual rental of 25 cents a square foot. That is \$10,800 an acre, and on a 6 per cent basis represents a capitalization or fee value of \$181,500 an acre. The Astoria grant is 16 31-100 acres, for \$3,500.

The Difference.

State officers give public lands away for \$3,506. If New York City methods were pursued the result—\$2,961,265. Senator Platt's State officers save for the Astoria Company \$2,937,759.

Albany, Dec. 7.—The State Land Board today unanimously granted to the Astoria Heat, Light and Power Company 16 31-100 acres of land under the waters of Berrian's Creek and the East River, adjoining the upland possessions of the Astoria Company. The Board asked the Astoria Company for \$3,506 for the grant, which is forever, with the restriction that the State may reclaim the land if substantial improvements are not entered upon within five years.

Those who voted for the grant were Lieutenant-Governor Timothy L. Woodruff, Speaker S. Frederick Nixon, Comptroller William J. Morgan, Secretary of State John T. McDonough, Attorney-General John C. Davies, State Treasurer John P. Jaceckel and State Engineer Edward A. Bond.

Every man on the Board owes his office to Senator Platt, whose son's law firm, Tracy, Boardman & Platt, is counsel for the Astoria Company. Superintendent Partridge, of the Department of Public Works, was absent.

The Board has been informed that the grant would be worth millions. Assistant Corporation Counsel Blandy, of New York City, made that declaration some time since, when, on behalf of the New York Dock Board, he objected that the grant was an enormous concession of public rights. Other authorities declare that the city treasury nearly \$3,000,000 from it.

Discussion over the form of the grant disclosed the fact that the Astoria Company wants to have the right to use the scheme to tunnel the East River, and with its Consolidated Gas Company alliance to monopolize the gas business in Manhattan and Bronx.

Two problems stand in the way of perfecting the grant. One is Governor Roosevelt's declaration of opposition to such grants. This is on record. Now the Platts want him to sign the grant. Another problem is a law suit to be brought by Corporation Counsel Whalen to nullify the grant.

His assistant, Edward J. Freedman, said today that the city would either seek an injunction to restrain the perfecting of the grant or a mandamus would be applied for to review the Board's proceedings. The proceedings began at 11 o'clock. Secretary McDonough told of the Governor's declaration of opposition to such grants in perpetuity. He offered a resolution that no more unrestricted grants be made. From under his feet, he read, almost in a whisper: "This land is in trust for the benefit of the public, and the State has not power to alienate for private or speculative purposes."

Lieutenant-Governor Woodruff explained that any restriction would satisfy that resolution. Attorney-General Davies favored the restriction. The State Engineer Bond adopted without dissent. It then appeared that the 35 28-100 acres asked by Astoria had been cut down to 16 31-100 acres because it was found that the company had wanted to appropriate the entire channel of Berrian's Creek.

Attorney-General Davies wanted the land to revert to the State if improvements were not made. He wanted Astoria to have the grant or a mandamus would be applied for to review the Board's proceedings. The proceedings began at 11 o'clock. Secretary McDonough told of the Governor's declaration of opposition to such grants in perpetuity. He offered a resolution that no more unrestricted grants be made. From under his feet, he read, almost in a whisper: "This land is in trust for the benefit of the public, and the State has not power to alienate for private or speculative purposes."

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ROBERTS CONFESSES PLURAL MARRIAGES. FRIDAY REFUSES TO GIVE UP HIS WIVES.



Special Roberts Committee Considering the Journal's Evidence, Which Would Convict Even in a Mormon Court.

CARNEGIE MUTE IN REGARD TO FRICK.

Magnate Will Not Discuss Quarrel With His Former Manager.

Andrew Carnegie has returned to his town house, No. 5 West Fifty-first street, for the winter, finally determined not to talk about the rumored disagreement with Mr. Frick.

"On another subject," said Mr. Carnegie last evening, "I might possibly be induced to talk when I am not so fatigued with travel. But in regard to Mr. Frick I have nothing to say."

This policy on the part of both Mr. Carnegie and Mr. Frick has tended to increase, rather than diminish, the number of rumors which are current, both here and in Pittsburgh. The silence both men preserve is ominous, say those who know them well. It savors of a startling discovery of opinion, which must have been extreme to have caused so sudden and complete a rupture between men whose interests have so long been identified.

While it is acknowledged, as Mr. Frick is reported to have said, that Mr. Carnegie is not always an easy man to get along with, this is not more true now than it has been in the past. Carnegie's character is too well moulded to become chameleonlike in a day. Neither is it felt that Mr. Frick has for years been "boiling within" until he has burst forth on this particular occasion. The difference is said to date from last Spring, when the consolidation of Carnegie interests took place. At that time it was noticed that some slight friction existed between the magnate and his chief representative. There were questions as to time as to whether it was better policy to sell product for immediate returns or to hold for prospective profits. Mr. Frick is believed to have foreseen the lunatic rise which would ensue in prices, but Mr. Carnegie continued in what, to Mr. Frick, seemed a short-sighted policy.

It is reported that H. C. Frick, whose practical retirement from the Carnegie Steel Company was announced last month, will become head of the new Union Steel Company, chartered some weeks ago. A combine between the Union, Oliver, Frick and other companies will be formed, it is asserted, to fight Carnegie.

WIFE MOURNS OVER A GRAVE, BUT FINDS HUSBAND ALIVE.

Reunion of a Rochester Pair After a Quarrel and the Supposed Death of Earl.

Rochester, Dec. 7.—For three months Mrs. Robert Earl has counted herself a widow, and daily cared for the grave in Mount Hope where she never doubted her husband's body rested. Her husband is alive, however, and was arrested in Buffalo last night on a charge of non-support. He and his wife had mutual explanations, and went happily away together.

Two years ago last March Earl and his wife quarrelled and he left her in anger. A body was found in a shed at Genesee Junction recently. Mrs. Earl and three or four friends of her husband's identified the body positively as that of Robert Earl. The Metropolitan Insurance Company paid the supposed widow the amount of her husband's insurance, and the Macabees were asked to do likewise. Recently one of the wiser saw Earl in Buffalo and demanded an investigation.

LEFT A BABY ON "L" STAIRS.

Hundreds Passing When This Month-Old Boy Was Deserted.

While hundreds of persons were passing up and down the elevated railway stairs at Canal street and the Bowers last evening at 6 o'clock some person found it possible to leave a pretty, neatly clad infant on the landing half way up. The baby, a boy, about a month old, was found by Richard Penning, of No. 432 East One Hundred and Ninth street station. The foundling has light hair and blue eyes. The child is now in Bellevue Hospital.

JULIUS ELLINGER INSANE.

Head of the Cigar Manufacturing Firm Declared a Lunatic.

Tampa, Fla., Dec. 7.—Julius Ellinger, head of the cigar manufacturing firm of Julius Ellinger & Company, of New York and Tampa, is insane. He has just been declared that he was declared a lunatic about a year ago. Mr. Ellinger, who is a Jew, about a month old, was found by Richard Penning, of No. 432 East One Hundred and Ninth street station. The foundling has light hair and blue eyes. The child is now in Bellevue Hospital.

Important Notice! Send your "Want" Ads. in early for the Journal Xmas Number. Out next Sunday.

Polygamist, in a Statement, Denies Congress' Right to Deprive Him of Seat and Utah of Representation—Would Not Desert the Three Women He Married Even If His Church Ordered.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 7.—Representative-elect Brigham H. Roberts, of Utah, has finally made a statement to meet the charges based on proofs of his guilt furnished by the Journal. He has for the first time admitted his plurality of wives and the fact that he pleaded guilty under the Edmunds act of 1887. These confessions—the essential matters upon which his eligibility to a seat in Congress is dependent—are contained in a statement furnished to a newspaper which has supported him against the sentiment of the American people.

It is now assured that the House Special Committee of Nine will make short work of the polygamist from Utah. There will be no necessity for going outside of Washington to settle the matter. This morning's unanimous consent was granted by the House for the committee to sit during the sessions of the House, upon the request of Mr. Taylor, chairman of the committee. This will greatly expedite the case and the committee will get at the matter in earnest to-morrow.

In the statement, which is now in the hands of the Investigating Committee, Roberts gives expression to the following, which the members consider of the greatest importance:

"These women have stood by me. They are good and true women. The law has said I shall not desert them. My church has bowed to the commands of Congress and recognized the practice of plural marriage. But the law cannot free me from obligations assumed before it spoke. No power can do that."

Even were the church that sanctioned these marriages and performed the ceremonies to desert him, he would not desert the marriages he is not valid now and that must give these good and loyal women up. I'll be damned if I would."

The committee met in the room of the House Elections Committee this morning and organized. All of the nine members were present, and the committee would have gotten down to business at once had it not been for the meeting of the House. Roberts, however, is in session not having been previously obtained. The committee will hold another meeting to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock, and keep in session as continuously as possible until its work is completed.

Question Will Soon Be Solved.

The confession of Roberts with the mass of court records, affidavits and other proofs heretofore placed at the committee's disposal by the Journal, will make the road to a solution of the question a short one.

It is probable that Roberts will get a chance to go before the committee the first thing and say what he wants to do to evidence the committee holds against him.

Members of Congress say he would have no objection to being arrested for Congress if he had taken his present course on the opening day of the session. It might not have resulted in his getting his seat, even temporarily, but he would have been credited with a manly action. The sentimentality of the plea of duty to his wives will not now have any practical effect.

Mr. Taylor said to-night that he saw no reason at present for going away from Washington to obtain any evidence. "The meeting of the committee was a secret one, and so it will be to-morrow. Whether or not there will be any open sessions has not been determined. In my opinion, if Mr. Roberts will probably present his side of the case and insist on his rights."

HERE IS HIS DEFENSE. In a spirit of fairness to Roberts, the Journal herewith gives his statement of defense. After reviewing the facts and proceedings resulting in the appointment of the committee, he says:

"The member from Utah is not allowed to take the oath of office, and a committee is appointed to try him as to his alleged guilt of polygamy. He is charged, and even more is granted that was asked, and more than was asked upon the floor of the House. For a hostile committee has been appointed to inquire into the case. It is membership is made up entirely of those who voted to adopt the method of procedure. Not one who voted against it was allowed to find a place upon the committee, and for the creation of such a tribunal for such a purpose be allowed there is no reason why the committee should be made up of members of one political faith—for the majority may do as it pleases about it."

I ask the American people to stop and think what that may mean to this country in times of high political excitement and party strife and passion. I suppose that in this case the committee shall proceed to proceed with reasonable expedition to consider the questions involved, but what is there to hinder it delaying its action under one pretext or another as long as it pleases?

Possibility of Delay. "Second—The representative to which a State is entitled on the floor of the House may be denied to it—as in this Utah case—by the length of time this committee may elect to delay its proceedings. I suppose that in this case the committee shall proceed to proceed with reasonable expedition to consider the questions involved, but what is there to hinder it delaying its action under one pretext or another as long as it pleases?"

"It may take a week, a month or a year

to make his investigations, for it is authorized to send for papers and persons; to examine witnesses, and is not even instructed to report at an early date as possible. It can prolong its investigations for two years as well as a month, or a year, if it so elects, and meantime deny to a State representation, and may desert altogether the expressed will of the people of a State as to their choice of a representative."

If the present House can thus deprive Utah of its representation, there is no reason why it could not deny Virginia hers, even though she has ten representatives, for ten representatives as easy as one can be turned away from the bar of the House, and one State as well as another, if a bare majority of the House choose to do it. And if the present Republican House can do this in the case of Utah or Virginia, it is no reason why the next Democratic House could not proceed in like manner with representatives from Republican States under this new and unprecedented rule of procedure."

Calls It a New Precedent.

"Third—This new precedent also strikes down the constitutional guarantee of a right to one accused of crime to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury of the State wherein the crime shall have been committed." The proposition is not to deprive me of my seat in Congress by the presentation of records of conviction for crime before me before me which I have been found guilty, under the due forms of the law. The proposition is to try me before the committee of the House, which is not a jury, and which has no power to ascertain my guilt or innocence of an alleged misdemeanor reported to have been committed in Utah."

Refrained from denying this statement by saying that in the charge against me, which resulted in the appointment of this extraordinary committee, I was charged with the crime of polygamy, and that the proceedings of a court in Utah evidenced the fact that the member from Utah pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor in the year 1883, twelve years ago, and when Utah was a Territory."

Whatever political disabilities were created by the action of the House in the sovereign State of Utah when, in the adoption of her State Constitution in 1895, she declared her sovereignty, declared that she would not be qualified by her electorate, and I possess them all. And this side of the enabling act and the admission of Utah into the Union, I have no record of conviction of crime, or at any time since the year 1883, and the House has no right to proceed to any other evidence than such court records."

"I deny the existence of the law of the State of Utah which would prevent me from being sworn in on the presentation of the same evidence of prima facie right upon which I am admitted to membership."

"I deny the right of the House of Representatives to reach by itself into the justice of the peace court, to try me for a misdemeanor, alleged to have been committed before I was admitted to membership, or to exclude from the high office to which I was elected."

"I deny the right to confer any such power upon its committee. If I were guilty of the misdemeanor charged, even flagrantly so here in the State of Utah, I could not be arrested for the offense, so slight is it considered under the law. The Constitution gives the members of Congress no right to arrest or detain any citizen for breach of the peace, and yet for an alleged misdemeanor for which I could not be arrested while in attendance upon the House or while going to and from it I am deprived of the right to take the oath of office; my right to my seat in Congress is taken from me by one of the sovereign States is denied representation so long as it shall suit the purpose of the committee to have it so, and the expressed will of the people of a State is in danger of being defeated."

Says Representatives Are Cowards. "But why this appeal to the American people? Because violence is threatened to the safeguards of your liberties. Because the right of the rule of the majority in one of the sovereign States in the Union is being denied. The safeguards of the rights and liberties of the individual and of the State are being broken down, and many of your Representatives are too cowardly to even make a protest against such proceedings because they fear they would endanger their chance for reelection if they voted against the high-handed measure now taking place."

"I am sure that the Representative from Utah is a 'Mormon,' and just now against the Mormon people a wave of popular sentiment, created by falsehood, is sweeping the country. This is the worst compact with the United States in the matter of polygamy, that her people contemplate the revival of polygamy in the State of Utah. The sealing of Utah's Representative would be regarded by her Mormon population as an endorsement of polygamy, and would be a menace to the American home."

"Upon my honor as a representative from the State of Utah, a man who has been married to three women, I solemnly swear that I am not a Mormon, and I am not a member of the Mormon Church."

The only thing chargeable to some few men in the State of Utah is that they have not deserted the plural wives they married years ago previous to the settlement of the polygamy question between the Government of the United States and the State of Utah, by which polygamy or

plural marriages are forever prohibited in the State of Utah, penalty affixed by constitutional provision, and the whole made unreplicable WITHOUT the consent of the United States and the consent of the people of Utah."

Failure to Prosecute. "Even continuing the relations formed before this settlement of the question, though their disruption was neither demanded by the Enabling Act nor contemplated by the provisions of the State Constitution—is under the law a misdemeanor, and punishable; but it has not been regarded as necessary to good morals of public policy, to prosecute people for this offense, and neither by the Republican party nor by Democrats has the existence of such relations been considered a bar to political preferment until the political and religious examples of the present representative from Utah thought proper to urge them against him."

Such men have been elected to offices of high honor in the State of Utah, and others against whom such charges were made by Democrats were appointed to Federal offices in the State, notwithstanding such objections were urged against them."

"I submit to you the question whether it is worth while for your Representatives to break down the safeguards which protect both the rights of individuals and the rights of the States, and which menaces representative government, and to maintain procedure involving dangers herein set forth, in order to reach the laws of the State and which is in the eyes of the people, an offense so slight that under the rights guaranteed to him and his constituents, he could not be arrested for it while in attendance upon his duties in Congress."

Drinklers of Evans' Ale never hesitate to drain the bottle. No sediment.

BARMAN'S SON A VISCOUNT'S HEIR

Becomes Lord Bolingbroke, and His Mother a Noble Dowager.

(Copyright, 1899, by the New York Journal and Advertiser.)

LONDON, Dec. 7.—Viscount Bolingbroke, the holder of one of the oldest and most esteemed titles in England, died a few months ago, leaving, as was supposed, no direct heirs. He was seventy-three, and a childless old widower. His cousin, the Rev. Maurice St. John, was about to assume the title, when he discovered that the Viscount had married only four years ago Miss Howard, a barmaid in the Gaiety Theatre bar.

The marriage was kept secret, and the wife went to live in Bath. A son was born three years ago, named Vernon Henry St. John, who is the rightful heir to the title.

REVISE THE CHARTER, SAYS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Governor to Be Asked to Appoint New York Men Only on a Commission to Do It.

A resolution declaring that the charter of Greater New York is in need of careful revision in the interests of the public and especially of economy in public expenditure was adopted at the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce yesterday. The Chamber also voted:

"That a committee of the members of this body be appointed to represent to the Legislature the urgent necessity of a law empowering the Chamber of Commerce to prepare, recommend and submit to the Legislature a bill to revise the charter and report to the Legislature in 1901."

At the time of the whole question should be revised by gentlemen of the city or men of the western part of the State. He said that a committee for the revision of the charter should be appointed. He thought the Governor could be urged to appoint members to it who live in this city. A resolution was passed favoring the Chamber of Commerce to be prompt in sending subscriptions to the Devereux Arch Committee, and further encourage the movement.

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In 24 Days 1900.

In 17 Days Xmas.

Old English SILVER

has always been an important item of our stock. It is becoming more and more scarce, and genuine desirable pieces, such as we have, are more appreciated than ever before.

WEDDED ON FOURTH ATTEMPT.

Three Times in Seven Years the Couple's Happiness Had Been Postponed.

After an engagement of seven years, during which their wedding had been three times postponed by unforeseen circumstances, Elizabeth Walmer, of Harrison, Pa., and Alexander Anderson, of Great Neck, L. I., were married at Harrison yesterday. Anderson met his present wife at Harrison in 1892. They became engaged, and the date of the wedding was set, but Miss Walmer fell ill. When she recovered a second day was set. This time Anderson developed typhoid fever and again the ceremony was postponed.

Three Killed in An Explosion. Potomac, Pa., Dec. 7.—The powder works of James S. Miller, near Sunnyside, were completely wrecked by an explosion today and three men were killed and several others injured.

Pennsylvania Limited Daily via Pennsylvania Railroad to Chicago, St. Louis, Indianapolis, Kentucky, Cincinnati, Columbia, Cleveland, Toledo and Detroit.

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SOCIAL DEMOCRATS ASTONISH THE BAY STATE.

Their Re-election of a Mayor in Haverhill and Their Success in Brockton Worry Both the Old Parties.

Victories Make the Leaders of the New Movement Hopeful of Winning in Lynn and of Progress in Boston.

Mayor Chase, of Haverhill, Declares That the People Want More Socialism, and He Will Give It to Them.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 7.—The spread of Social Democracy in Massachusetts is giving both Republicans and Democrats extreme uneasiness. These new and strange people carried the city of Haverhill last year and again this year (last Tuesday), and they have now added the flourishing city of Brockton to their list.

They have also some hopes of carrying the day in Lynn next Tuesday. In Boston they have a ticket in the field for the future, though they have developed no strength here as yet.

Their remarkable showing in Haverhill, fighting single-handed against four other parties who were trying to draw their strength away from them, and their success on one candidate, only confirms their belief in ultimate success.

Their success in Brockton, where a Mayor and two Aldermen were elected, also encouraged them. Their cause in Boston will be pleaded at Faneuil Hall Friday night, when Mayor Chase, of Haverhill, and Mayor-elect Conner, of Brockton, will speak.

They have seven wage-workers on their ticket here, and it is headed by John Weaver Sherman, a young newspaper man, who came here to work in the Fall of 1892, and in Boston, as well as other places, has been deeply interested in the advancement of the workingman's interest both by labor unions and political parties.

Principles of the New Party.

Mr. Sherman, the candidate of the new party here, said to-night:

"The first and greatest difference between the Social Democracy and all other political parties is that it stands squarely for the collective ownership and operation of all means of wealth, production and distribution, to end that class rule may be abolished."

"The co-operative commonwealth, which would be the natural outgrowth of such general ownership of the means of production and distribution, would contain millions of citizens who were economically freed instead of an immense population of wage slaves, dependent upon a few men who regard themselves as near the people who they have ridden upon their backs so long."

"Such incidents as the use of corn for fuel in Western places, while the children of the land starve, and the fact that it is impossible under this system. Food, rags, clothing or other articles would no longer be produced with a view to profit, but with an eye single to the needs of the people."

"The machinery, once in the control of the people, and of labor might be reduced far below the eight hour day of which we now talk—that was in vogue in King Solomon's time—because men would be able to fill up goals for the purpose of wringing a profit from their fellow citizens, who are assembly their peers, but could not afford to profit, but with an eye single to the needs of the people."

"The social democracy believes the wage system, by which a small amount of the workers' product is doled out to him, while he is lucky enough to have a master. In other words, 'hold a job,' to be utterly wrong and indefensible from any standpoint."

"It believes, strange as it may seem, in the trust because it sees in the trust the natural outgrowth of business. Competition is simply industrial war. The trust abolishes competition for their own benefit. The people must acquire the trusts or the trust will become the master absolute of the people."

"In behalf of this broad general principle, which includes all its demands, the party calls upon all wage workers to unite and vote for their own interests."

"So far as municipal demands are concerned, it asks for the abolition of local public utilities; the abolition of the contract system in any kind of work that meals and clothing be furnished free to all children of school age; and necessary to enable them to attend school."

Howard & Co. 264 Fifth Avenue